# What country did they live in?

Socrates: Greece Plato: Greece Aristotle: Greece

Thomas Aquinas: Italy - Kingdom of Sicily, Rome, University of Paris, Naples,

Rene Descartes: France - Kingdom of France, Netherlands, Sweden

John Locke: England - Netherlands

David Hume: Scotland - born and died in Edinburgh

Immanuel Kant: Prussia - Koenigsburg father from Klaipėda, ancestors from Priekulė

Martin Heidegger: Germany

Ludwig Wittgenstein: Austria-Hungary, England Berlin, Manchester, (aeronautics), Jewish

# What century did they live in? And were they Ancient, Medieval, Modern or Contemporary?

Socrates: 5th century BC Plato: 5th-4th century BC Aristotle: 4th century BC

Aquinas: 13th century 1225-1274 Descartes: 17th century 1596-1650 Locke: 17th century 1632-1704 Hume: 18th century 1711-1776 Kant: 18th century 1724-1804

Heidegger: 20th century 1889-1976 Wittgenstein: 20th century 1889-1951

# What languages did they write in? Greek, Latin, English or German?

Socrates:
Plato: Greek
Aristotle: Greek
Aguinas: Latin

Descartes: Latin, French

Locke: English Hume: English Kant: German

Heidegger: German

Wittgenstein: German, English

# What is a great book that they wrote?

Socrates: NONE Plato: *Republic* 

Aristotle: The Nicomachean Ethics

Aquinas: Summa Theologiae

Descartes: Rules for the Direction of the Mind

Locke: Two Treatises of Government

Hume: *A Treatise of Human Nature* Kant: *The Critique of Pure Reason* Heidegger: *Being and Time* Wittgenstein: *Philosophical investigations* 

# Which of these labels apply to them? Analytic, Christian, Continental, Existentialist, Idealist, Materialist, Skeptic, Empiricist, Rationalist

Socrates: Idealist, Skeptic

Plato: Idealist

Aristotle: Materialist

Aquinas: Materialist, Christian

Descartes: Idealist, Rationalist, Skeptic

Locke: Empiricist, Materialist

Hume: Empiricist, Materialist, Skeptic

Kant: Idealist, Rationalist

Heidegger: Idealist, Continental, Existentialist

Wittgenstein: Materialist, Analytic

# Which of these branches of philosophy did they contribute to? Aesthetics, Axiology, Epistemology, Ethics, Logic, Metaphysics, Phenomenology, Philosophy of religion, Philosophy of science, Political philosophy, Value theory

Socrates: Epistemology, ethics

Plato: Metaphysics, Ethics, Politics, Epistemology, Rhetoric, Art, Literature, Education, Society,

Friendship, Love

Aristotle: Biology, Zoology, Psychology, Physics, Metaphysics, Logic, Ethics, Rhetoric, Music, Poetry,

Politics, Government

Aquinas: Metaphysics, logic, theology, mind, epistemology, ethics, politics

Descartes: Metaphysics, epistemology, mathematics, physics, cosmology

Locke: Metaphysics, Epistemology, Political philosophy, Philosophy of mind, Education, Economics Hume: Aesthetic, epistemology, ethics, metaphysics, sociopolitical philosophy, philosophy of religion

Kant: Epistemology, Metaphysics, Ethics, Cosmogony

Heidegger: Ontology, Christian philosophy, Metaphysics, Art, Greek philosophy, Technology,

Language, Poetry, Thinking

Wittgenstein: Logic, metaphysics, philosophy of language, philosophy of mathematics, philosophy of

mind, epistemology

# What are 5 of their favorite concepts?

#### Locke:

*Tabula rasa* refers to the epistemological idea that individuals are born without built-in mental content and that therefore all knowledge comes from experience or perception.

**Social contract** concerns the origin of society and the legitimacy of the authority of the state over the individual.

The *Lockean proviso* is a feature of John Locke's labour theory of property which states that whilst individuals have a right to homestead private property from nature by working on it, they can do so only "at least where there is enough, and as good, left in common for others."

Molyneux's problem is a thought experiment in philosophy concerning immediate recovery from blindness. It was first formulated by William Molyneux, and notably referred to in John Locke's *An Essay Concerning Human Understanding* (1689). The problem can be stated in brief, "if a man born blind can feel the differences between shapes such as spheres and cubes, could he, if given the ability to see, distinguish those objects by sight alone, in reference to the tactile schemata he already possessed?" **Primary qualities** are thought to be properties of objects that are independent of any observer, such as solidity, extension, motion, number and figure. These characteristics convey facts. They exist in the thing itself, can be determined with certainty, and do not rely on subjective judgments. For example, if an object is spherical, no one can reasonably argue that it is triangular.

**Secondary qualities** are thought to be properties that produce sensations in observers, such as color, taste, smell, and sound. They can be described as the effect things have on certain people. Knowledge that comes from secondary qualities does not provide objective facts about things.

#### Hume:

**Hume's fork** is an explanation, developed by later philosophers, of David Hume's aggressive, 1730s division of "relations of ideas" from "matters of fact and real existence".

The **science of man** (or the **science of human nature**) is a topic in David Hume's 18th century experimental philosophy *A Treatise of Human Nature* (1739). The science of man expanded the understanding of facets of human nature, including senses, impressions, ideas, imagination, passions, morality, justice, and society.

**Bundle theory** According to bundle theory, an object consists of its properties and nothing more: thus neither can there be an object without properties nor can one even *conceive* of such an object; for example, bundle theory claims that thinking of an apple compels one also to think of its color, its shape, the fact that it is a kind of fruit, its cells, its taste, or at least one other of its properties. Thus, the theory asserts that the apple is no more than the collection of its properties. In particular, there is no *substance* in which the properties are *inherent*.

The **is—ought problem** states that many writers make claims about what *ought* to be, based on statements about what *is*. Hume found that there seems to be a significant difference between positive statements (about what is) and prescriptive or normative statements (about what ought to be), and that it is not obvious how one can coherently move from descriptive statements to prescriptive ones. The is—ought problem is also known as **Hume's law**, or **Hume's guillotine**.

**Moral sense theory** is a theory in moral epistemology and meta-ethics concerning the discovery of moral truths.

# Heidegger:

Seinsfrage - question of the nature of Being.

Dasein / Das sein - "Being" - the human way of being; the existence of creatures who are prone to questioning the nature of Being.

Das Nichts - "the Nothing" - the nothingness - death. According to Heidegger humans are terrified of "Das Nichts" and spend their lives avoiding even the thought of it by distracting themselves with "Das Gerede".

Geworfenheit - "throwness" - the way each human is "thrown into the world", that is, is born into a multitude of circumstances without being able to choose them. Eigenlichkeit (eng. authenticity) - truthfulness to oneself - being true to one's own self - hearing one's own inner voice and following it as opposed to following "Das Gerede".

Uneigentlichkeit (eng. unauthenticity) - living according to "Das Gerede" instead of following one's own inner voice; a socialized, superficial way of being - living as "they-self" instead of "myself".

Das Gerede - "The Chatter" - the endless chatter of the world surrounding each of us present in our everyday lives - the sum of all trivial matters - the voices, thoughts and opinions of everyone but ourselves, including marketing, commercials etc., all which help us forget that "Das Nichts" is coming.

# What are 2 of their great ideas?

#### Plato:

The idea of first-hand observation importance as shown in his example of people living in caves and only seeing shadows.

# What are 5 interesting quotes from each of them?

#### Plato:

"Wise men talk because they have something to say; fools, because they have to say something."

# Locke:

"I have always thought the actions of men the best interpreters of their thoughts."

"No man's knowledge here can go beyond his experience."

"Every man has a property in his own person. This nobody has a right to, but himself."

"All mankind... being all equal and independent, no one ought to harm another in his life, health, liberty or possessions."

"What worries you, masters you."

#### Hume:

"Beauty in things exists in the mind which contemplates them."

"A wise man proportions his belief to the evidence."

"Custom is the great guide to human life."

"It is seldom that liberty of any kind is lost all at once."

"Generally speaking, the errors in religion are dangerous; those in philosophy only ridiculous."

# Heidegger:

- "Man dies constantly until the moment of his demise."
- "He who never says anything cannot keep silent at any given moment."
- "Understanding of being is itself a determination of being of Da-sein."
- "Has Dasein as itself ever freely decided, and will it ever be able to decide, whether it wants to come into "Dasein" or not?"
- "Why are there beings at all, instead of Nothing?"

# Wittgenstein:

- "The world is everything that is the case."
- "What is the case, the fact, is the thought."
- "The logical picture of the fact is the thought."
- "The thought is the significant proposition."
- "Propositions are truth-functions of elementary propositions."

# What is an interesting fact about them?

# Locke:

John Locke was widely regarded as one of the most influential of Enlightenment thinkers and commonly known as the "Father of Liberalism". Considered one of the first of the British empiricists.

#### Hume:

His philosophy was radical in its day for questioning many of the Church's core beliefs, but he was no zealot. Some of his most radical work was published posthumously precisely because he knew how disruptive his ideas would be. He was not anti-religion, but rather pro-reason.

# Heidegger:

Heidegger is a controversial persona due to having been a supporter of Hitler at some point. Although he never claimed that his philosophy was concerned with politics, his work was largely overshadowed by the initial fact

# Wittgenstein:

Wittgenstein was born in Austria-Hungary then moved to England and met Russel. Russel wrote about him that "An unknown German append...obstinate and performance, but I think not stupid"

#### Timeline

Timeline of great events in the history of the Western world.

- 2700-1700 BC Egyptian pyramids
- 5th Century BC Buddha, 6th Century BC Confucius
- 4th Century BC Alexander the Great
- 2nd Century BC Rise of the Roman Empire
- 0 AD Birth of Jesus Christ
- 476 AD Fall of the Roman Empire
- 7th Century Islam
- 11th-13th Century Crusades
- 1492 Discovery of America
- 14th-17th Century Renaissance
- 1517 Reformation
- 1543 (Copernicus) 1687 (Newton) Scientific revolution
- 18th Century Enlightenment
- 1776 American Revolution
- 1789 French Revolution
- 1760-1830 Industrial Revolution
- 1914-1918 World War I and the Russian Revolution
- 1939-1945 World War II
- 1960s Information Age, 1969 Internet
- 1969 Moon landing
- 1991 Collapse of the Soviet Union